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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,417	02/25/2002	Michael Guggemos	009-02	3276

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PAUL AND PAUL  
2900 TWO THOUSAND MARKET STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

EXAMINER

DUDA, KATHLEEN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1756

DATE MAILED: 08/21/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/069,417

Applicant(s)

GUGGEMOS ET AL.

Examiner

Kathleen Duda

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1756

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4, 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The non-English documents that had a statement of relevancy were considered. DE 2061580 had no statement of relevancy. It was stated that the document was listed as an "X" document but the PCT 409 dated 11/27/01 says that the document was not relevant.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori (US Patent 5,294,519) or EP 017864 in view of Meyer (US Patent 6,593,249).

Mori teaches a process of preparing a printed circuit board. A photoresist is coated onto a copper-clad base plate. The photoresist is exposed and developed to form a pattern is then used as an etching mask for the copper. It is taught that a corrosion-prevention treatment occurs between the cladding and application of the photoresist layer. Column 6,

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lines 25-40, teaches the corrosion-prevention treatment which comprises treating the substrate with a nitrogen-containing heterocyclic. Column 7, lines 11-18, teaches the development of the photoresist layer and column 7, lines 48-68, teaches the etching of the copper layer.

EP 0178864, teaches forming a copper through-hole printed circuit board. A pattern is formed on the copper layer and the substrate is dipped in alkylimidazole before etching the copper. See page 10, line 15 to page 11, line 3.

Neither Mori nor EP 0178864 teaches the use of a laser in the process. This is taught by Meyer.

Meyer teaches a process of forming a metal pattern. Figure 1 and column 12, lines 15-39, teach the process. A base metal is formed on a substrate. A layer of varnish is then applied which is ablated to form a pattern that is then used to etch the metal. Column 6, line 35 to column 7, line 7, teaches the use of the laser and the advantages of the varnish in protecting the metal.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have formed a protective layer on a metal layer before etching the metal layer because Mori and EP 0178864 teach using a protective layer which is patterned to etch a metal layer and Meyer teaches that such a layer when laser ablated has the advantages of sharp images.

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***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner K. Duda at (703) 308-2292. Official after final FAX communications should be sent to (703) 872-9311, all other official FAX communications should be sent to (703) 872-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the receptionist at (703) 308-0661.



Kathleen Duda  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1756